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USIA Chief Denies Herter Said Spy Flights Would Continue

George V. Allen Asserts There Has Been Great Misunderstanding. No Flat Statement Issued

WASHINGTON, May 14 (AP)

SECRETARY OF STATE CHRISTIAN A. HERTER has not declared that United States spy flight will continue over Russia, says George V. Allen, director of the United States Information Agency.

"There has been a great misunderstanding that I would like to correct," Allen said yesterday in a television interview.

Allen said Herter had stated "that there is an obligation and responsibility on the part of the United States Government and of the free world to try to obtain information to guard against surprise attack, but he has not said we are going to continue to fly."

Commenting a week ago on the downing of an American plane inside Russian territory, Herter said in a special statement:

"The Government of the United States would be derelict to its responsibilities, not only to the American people but to free peoples everywhere if it did not, in the absence of Soviet co-operation, take such measures as are possible unilaterally to lessen and to overcome this danger of surprise attack. In fact, the United States has not and does not shirk this responsibility."

At the time, State Department press officer Lincoln White did not seek to discourage newsmen from interpreting the Herter statement as notice that flights over Russia would continue until there is East-West agreement on steps to guard against surprise attack.

Through all the tempest about the plane incident, top high administration official has given a flat statement that the flights are continuing or have been stopped. Nor did Allen yesterday, he just said there had been a great misunderstanding about what Herter had said.

Allen, appearing on the program "College News Conference," said the downed pilot, Francis G. Powers, "told exactly what his mission was, exactly what he was expected to do. And he was under instructions to do that . . . he gave an honest report on what his mission was and I think that ought to be realized by everybody concerned."

United Press International said Allen, questioned further later, said the pistol and hypodermic needle carried by Powers

were for use in taking his life only if he were in danger of being tortured.)

Powers 'Gravest Criminal,' Say Soviet Legal Experts

MOSCOW, May 16 (AP)—Two of the Soviet Union's top legal authorities declared yesterday that Francis G. Powers must be "strictly punished as the gravest criminal, spy and war provocateur."

The guilt of the 30-year-old American U-2 pilot is not arguable, said an Izvestia article written by P. S. Romashkin, head of the legal institute of the Academy of Sciences, and S. A. Golunsky.

"The court sentence will serve as a serious warning to all big and small war provocateurs," they said.

The minimum of crimes attributed to Powers under Soviet law for his spy flight is eight years' imprisonment. The maximum is death.

The buildup of Soviet indignation showed no signs of abating. It was announced the central studio of documentary films is preparing a movie on the case. This is to show rocket troops and collective farmers who captured Powers in the region of Sverdlovsk, 900 miles east of Moscow, a display of his "spy equipment" at Moscow's Gorky park; Premier Khrushchev's news conference on the incident and shots of mass meetings denouncing the flight.

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